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MR. SAM R. BROADBENT - BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

6/24/53

Commissioner of Public Buildings (Signed) W. E. Reynolds

Space

I have attempted to work out a solution in the Metropolitan Area of Washington for the handling of the personnel of the agency that you and I discussed. It is now housed in 28 different locations, but this is not entirely unusual as the State Department is in 30 different locations. I must conclude:

1. The more easily vacated permanent buildings are not large enough to accommodate the agency. Buildings that would be large enough are the Pentagon, Department of Commerce, and the General Accounting Office.
2. The building that we designate as Federal Office Building No. 2 and also known as the Navy Annex, located west of the Pentagon, could accommodate a high percentage of the people involved, but the vacation of this building is extremely difficult.
3. Neither the Munitions nor the Navy Building can be vacated without a scattering of the people in the same manner as the agency under discussion is now scattered. The only alternative to this would be to move a large portion of the present work being done in Munitions to another city.
4. I am strongly opposed to the assignment of either Navy or Munitions to this agency since, as I understand, they expect to spend several million dollars on a building if assigned to them. These buildings are classified as temporary buildings. Every effort has been made to remove them and the expenditure of this amount of money would make the buildings permanent in character. This would be catastrophic for the planning of the City of Washington.
5. The real solution to this problem due to the many factors involved such as particular use, security factors, etc., is the construction of a new building. We have previously suggested property owned by the Bureau of Public Roads about 2 miles up the River from Chain Bridge as an excellent location. Other property exists such as Beltsville and Suitland, if the time element of travel would permit of these latter locations.